

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered). Please AMEND claims 1, 12, 16, 34, 36, 38, 39 and 40 in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) Method for querying a database with database contents with a database structure, comprising:

placing a query in a query structure that differs from the database structure wherein the query structure and the database structure reference a standard structure with a reference logic and wherein the reference logic is one of:

transmitted together with the query;

at least partially transmitted together with the query;

present in the database; and

partially present in the database,

wherein the standard structure is described by standard descriptors, and the query structure and the database structure are described by at least one of the standard descriptors and ~~more~~-special descriptors, wherein the ~~more~~-special descriptors reference the standard descriptors with the reference logic, and

wherein the standard descriptor is a descriptor known on both a query side and a database side and one special descriptor is derived from at least two standard descriptors by the reference logic and/or one standard descriptor is derived from at least two special descriptors by the reference logic.

2. (original) Method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the reference logic is stored in the database.

3. (cancelled)

4. (previously presented) Method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein standard descriptors present in the query structure are compared with the standard descriptors of the database, wherein identical standard descriptors are evaluated for the query.

5. (previously presented) Method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the special descriptors present in the query structure are compared with the special descriptors of the database, wherein identical special descriptors are evaluated for the query.

6. (previously presented) Method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein dissimilar special descriptors are reviewed to determine whether a computation logic is present in the database, so that a respective special descriptor of the database structure can be computed directly from the corresponding special descriptor of the query structure by means of the computation logic.

7. (original) Method as claimed in Claim 6, wherein the computation logic is stored in the database.

8. (previously presented) Method as claimed in Claim 7, wherein, for dissimilar special descriptors for which no computation logic is present, a review is made to determine whether a reference logic to standard descriptors is at least partially present in the database.

9. (previously presented) Method as claimed in Claim 7, wherein, for dissimilar special descriptors for which no computation logic and/or no reference logic is present, a review is made to determine whether the reference logic was transmitted together with the query.

10. (previously presented) Method as claimed in Claim 7, wherein atomic elements defining the information and/or link of a special descriptor are used as the computation logic.

11. (original) Method as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the atomic elements used are semantic, physical and linking atomic elements to define the semantic meaning, the physical memory structure, and the link between memory structure and semantics.

12. (currently amended) Computer readable media embodying a database structure to execute a method comprising:

placing a query in a query structure that differs from the database structure wherein the query structure and the database structure reference a standard structure with a reference logic and wherein the reference logic is one of:

transmitted together with the query;

partially transmitted together with the query;

present in the database; and

partially present in the database, and

wherein the standard descriptor is a descriptor known on both a query side and a database side and one special descriptor is derived from at least two standard descriptors by the reference logic and/or one standard descriptor is derived from at least two special descriptors by the reference logic.

~~wherein the standard structure is described by standard descriptors, and the query structure and the database structure are described by at least one of the standard descriptors and more special descriptors, wherein the more special descriptors reference the standard descriptors with the reference logic.~~

13. (original) Computer readable media as claimed in Claim 12, wherein the reference logic is stored in the database.

14. (cancelled)

15. (previously presented) Computer readable media as claimed in Claim 12, wherein standard descriptors present in the query structure are compared with the standard descriptors of the database, wherein identical standard descriptors are evaluated for the query.

16. (currently amended) Computer readable media as claimed in Claim ~~14~~12, wherein the special descriptors present in the query structure are compared with the special descriptors of the database, wherein identical special descriptors are evaluated for the query.

17. (previously presented) Computer readable media as claimed in Claim 12, wherein dissimilar special descriptors are reviewed to determine whether a computation logic is present in the database, so that a respective special descriptor of the database structure can be computed directly from the corresponding special descriptor of the query structure by means of the computation logic.

18. (original) Computer readable media as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the computation logic is stored in the database.

19. (previously presented) Computer readable media as claimed in Claim 18,

wherein, for dissimilar special descriptors for which no computation logic is present, a review is made to determine whether a reference logic to standard descriptors is at least partially present in the database.

20. (previously presented) Computer readable media as claimed in Claim 18, wherein, for dissimilar special descriptors for which no computation logic and/or no reference logic is present, a review is made to determine whether the reference logic was transmitted together with the query.

21. (previously presented) Computer readable media as claimed in Claim 18, wherein atomic elements defining the information and/or link of a special descriptor are used as the computation logic.

22. (original) Computer readable media as claimed in Claim 21, wherein the atomic elements used are semantic, physical and linking atomic elements to define the semantic meaning, the physical memory structure, and the link between memory structure and semantics.

23. Cancelled.

24. Cancelled.

25. Cancelled.

26. Cancelled.

27. Cancelled.

28. Cancelled.

29. Cancelled.

30. Cancelled.

31. Cancelled.

32. Cancelled.

33. Cancelled.

34. (currently amended) A method of querying a plurality of databases, comprising:
submitting a query in an original query structure to a plurality of databases; and
separately revising the original query structure at each of the databases, to produce
query structures searchable within the respective databases,

wherein the original query structure is revised in a decentralized fashion, without
middleware,

wherein a standard structure is described by standard descriptors, and the query
structure and a database structure are described by at least one of the standard descriptors and
~~more~~ special descriptors, wherein the ~~more~~ special descriptors reference the standard
descriptors with a reference logic, and

wherein the special descriptors present in the query structure are compared with the
special descriptors of the database, wherein identical special descriptors are evaluated for the
query, and

wherein the standard descriptor is a descriptor known on both a query side and a
database side and one special descriptor is derived from at least two standard descriptors by the
reference logic and/or one standard descriptor is derived from at least two special descriptors by
the reference logic.

35. (cancelled)

36. (currently amended) A method of querying a plurality of databases, comprising:
submitting a query to a plurality of databases, the query containing information fields not
contained in all of the databases; and

separately searching for the query at the plurality of databases, each database using a
reference logic at the database to infer a relationship between fields in the database and fields in
the query not contained in the database,

wherein each database infers the relationship in a decentralized fashion, without
middleware,

wherein a standard structure is described by standard descriptors, and a query structure

and a database structure are described by at least one of the standard descriptors and ~~more~~ special descriptors, wherein the ~~more~~-special descriptors reference the standard descriptors with the reference logic, and

wherein the special descriptors present in the query structure are compared with the special descriptors of the database, wherein identical special descriptors are evaluated for the query, and

wherein the standard descriptor is a descriptor known on both a query side and a database side and one special descriptor is derived from at least two standard descriptors by the reference logic and/or one standard descriptor is derived from at least two special descriptors by the reference logic.

37. (cancelled)

38. (currently amended) A method of querying a plurality of databases, comprising: submitting a query in an original query structure to a plurality of databases; and separately revising the original query structure at each of the databases, independently of middleware, to produce query structures searchable within the respective databases,

wherein a standard structure is described by standard descriptors, and the query structure and a database structure are described by at least one of the standard descriptors and ~~more~~-special descriptors, wherein the ~~more~~-special descriptors reference the standard descriptors with a reference logic, and

wherein the special descriptors present in the query structure are compared with the special descriptors of the database, wherein identical special descriptors are evaluated for the query, and

wherein the standard descriptor is a descriptor known on both a query side and a database side and one special descriptor is derived from at least two standard descriptors by the reference logic and/or one standard descriptor is derived from at least two special descriptors by the reference logic.

39. (currently amended) Method for querying a database with database contents with a database structure comprising:

placing a query in a query structure that differs from the database structure wherein the query structure and the database structure reference a standard structure with a reference logic and wherein the reference logic is one of:

transmitted together with the query;
partially transmitted together with the query; present in the database; and
partially present in the database,
wherein the standard structure is described by standard descriptors, and the query structure and the database structure are described by at least one of the standard descriptors and ~~more~~-special descriptors, wherein the ~~more~~-special descriptors reference the standard descriptors with the reference logic, and
wherein the standard descriptor is a descriptor known on both a query side and a database side and one special descriptor is derived from at least two standard descriptors by the reference logic and/or one standard descriptor is derived from at least two special descriptors by the reference logic.

40. (currently amended) Computer readable media embodying a database structure to execute a method comprising:

placing a query in a query structure that differs from the database structure wherein the query structure and the database structure reference a standard structure with a reference logic and wherein the reference logic is one of:

transmitted together with the query;
partially transmitted together with the query; present in the database; and
partially present in the database,
wherein the standard structure is described by standard descriptors, and the query structure and the database structure are described by at least one of the standard descriptors and ~~more~~-special descriptors, wherein the ~~more~~-special descriptors reference the standard descriptors with the reference logic, and
wherein the standard descriptor is a descriptor known on both a query side and a database side and one special descriptor is derived from at least two standard descriptors by the reference logic and/or one standard descriptor is derived from at least two special descriptors by the reference logic.